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THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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ONLINE COUPONS



## Suburban Collection to be field hospital

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Suburban Collection Showplace will become the newest place battling the coronavirus pandemic in southeast Michigan.

The convention center, 46100 Grand River in Novi, will become the second al-

ternative care facility selected by the State of Michigan to treat patients who have contracted the coronavirus.

The center will provide 250,000 square feet of space and can house up to 1,000 patients.

"We are uniquely positioned to be able to support this effort and the fight against COVID-19," said Blair Bowman,

owner of the Suburban Collection Showplace, in a statement.

Ascension Michigan, which operates a hospital up Grand River from the convention center, will provide support for treating patients, the state announced.

"The health and safety of our patients, associates, providers and communities is Ascension Michigan's top

priority," said Dr. Kenneth Berkovitz, senior vice president, Ascension, and ministry market executive, Ascension Michigan, in a news release. "We look forward to collaborating on this critically important initiative as we help to expand capacity for care during this global

See HOSPITAL, Page 6A



Missie Pattipati will give birth to her fourth child in her South Lyon home, assisted by a midwife. She decided not to have the child, due in July, in a hospital to help lower the potential risk of exposure to coronavirus. COURTESY OF MISSIE PATTIPATI

## Expectant moms turning to midwives in pandemic

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Missie Pattipati, pregnant and due in July, planned to deliver her fourth child at an Ann Arbor hospital.

"Then coronavirus happened," she said.

Now, Pattipati plans to give birth in the master bedroom of her South Lyon home, with the help of a midwife.

Celeste Groenenberg, a midwife, currently fields "tons of inquiries" each day about home births from expectant mothers.

The increase is about three times

what she normally receives as owner of Gentle Mama Holistic Midwifery. In a normal year, she attends about 24 home births, but 2020 has become anything but normal.

In the next three months alone, she

See MIDWIVES, Page 4A

### SUICIDE AWARENESS

## Woman works to make sure others feel heard

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Christmas was over, and a young Sara Majoros was preparing to return to Albion College when she learned her baby brother tried to die by suicide.

"It was just like this bomb exploded

at our house," she said. "Then it was a secret."

She returned to campus upset, mad and ashamed because of her brother. She managed to tell a few people at Albion, but stayed mostly silent on the matter.

With her family, it never seemed like

the right time to discuss it.

Guilt lingers despite Majoros' volunteer work for the Common Ground Resource & Crisis Center in Pontiac. Her brother died by suicide about 20 years ago in a subsequent attempt.

See SUICIDE, Page 6A

## Northville 11-year-old organizes fundraiser to help medical employees

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Bald is beautiful in Northville's Tuer household thanks to a brilliant fundraising idea hatched in the mind of an 11-year-old who wanted to help the front-line heroes of the coronavirus pandemic.

With their hair in dire need of a trim and barber shops closed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive order, Matthew Tuer, a sixth-grader at Northville's Hillside Middle School, and his dad, Dave, took No. 2 clippers to each other's coiffures.

Following a few hours of contemplation, Matthew thought of a way to turn lemons into lemonade: they could donate the money they saved by not getting professional haircuts to help medical personnel.

With assistance from his parents - mom, Lynne, is a part-time teacher at Northville High School - Matthew set up a GoFundMe page and challenged his hockey teammates, friends and family members to join the #ClipsForCoronaHeroes haircut challenge.

"At first, Matthew set his goal at \$1,000, which I thought was pretty lofty," Lynne Tuer said. "The next thing we knew, he had raised \$1,010. When he asked us if he could raise the goal to \$1,500, we told him to go for it."

As of Monday, Matthew's GoFundMe had raised \$4,545 with a new goal of \$5,000. The page is available at [www.gofundme.com/f/wmfrvd-clips-for-corona-heroes](http://www.gofundme.com/f/wmfrvd-clips-for-corona-heroes).

The family has already delivered sandwiches twice to Beaumont Hospital in Farmington Hills.

"I think it's great that we've been able to raise so much money for such a good cause," Matthew said. "It started out as a challenge to my hockey teammates, but a lot more people have donated money. They haven't all buzzed their hair, but that's OK."

"My grandpa posted my GoFundMe fundraiser on his Nextdoor social media page. A nurse from Beaumont saw it and called me to thank me for everything I was doing."

See FUNDRAISER, Page 2A

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## Fundraiser

Continued from Page 1A

The challenge has also assisted a Northville small business struggling in the pandemic.

"The administrator we talked to at Beaumont suggested we provide cold meals so that the food could be placed in the refrigerators at the hospital and would be available for workers on different shifts," Lynne Tuer said. "Matthew suggested we use the money to purchase subs from Buscemis, which is right down the street from his school."

"The co-owner of Buscemis told us that because of the number of subs they've been making for us, he was able to call back some workers that had been temporarily laid off due to the coronavirus crisis."

Talking to the family early last week, only one of Matthew's teammates, Oscar Handyside, and his dad, Matt, had shaved their heads, but the important thing, he emphasized, is the money raised.

As far as the haircut he had to sacrifice, Matthew took it all in stride.

"It will grow back before school starts again," he said.



Novi student Matthew Tuer, with some help from his dad, Dave, and mom, Lynne (not pictured), developed a fundraiser to help provide meals for medical workers on the front lines of the pandemic. COURTESY OF THE TUER FAMILY

### hometownlife.com

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on May 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to receive public input on the following request in regards to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance: To consider a variance request on premises zoned CBD, Central Business District, located at 341 E. Main St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-001-04-0718-015. The applicant is seeking a variance to reposition a historic building on the site to allow for required parking and vehicle access. The new location will locate the east wall five-feet from the east side property line. The east wall of the existing building has windows, and the ordinance requires a minimum 10-foot side yard setback if the wall has openings. The variance needed is 5 feet from the requirements in Section 15.01, Footnote 10. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance request.

**THE MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE** in compliance with Executive Order 2020-15, issued by Michigan Governor Whitmer, temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings. Members of the public body and members of the public participating electronically will be considered present at the meeting and may participate as if physically present at the meeting.

The following is a link to attend and participate in the meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/727929793>. Participants can also call in at (646) 558-8656 or (312) 626-6799, webinar ID: 727 929 793.

Log in Instructions, Meeting Rules and Tips are available on the City's website at this link: <https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=13505469#zoning>. OR from the main Home page, click on the Government tab, then Agendas and Minutes, scroll to the Board of Zoning Appeals section of the webpage, and scroll down to the link for the May 6th regular meeting. "Zoom Webinar User Guide for City of Northville Public" is also available on this website page.

All of those wishing to participate in public comment will be given the opportunity during the public comment periods. Individuals requiring auxiliary aides or services should contact Dianne Massa, the City of Northville Clerk, at [dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

The variance application is available for review on the City's website: <https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=13642897>. OR from the main Home page, click on the Services tab, then Building and Planning, then Board of Zoning Appeals.

Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request must be submitted by 4:30pm on May 5, 2020 at City of Northville Municipal Building, City Clerk, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, or using the City Hall drop box located in the 24-hour vestibule, or by email to [dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us).

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Publish: April 16, 2020

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## Fleece & Thank You hopes to support medical workers

Shelby Tankersley [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Every blanket Fleece and Thank You gives to a hospitalized child or teen comes with a personalized video message from whoever made the blanket.

While health officials say it's not safe to pass blankets around right now, the Farmington Hills-based nonprofit is using its infrastructure to lift up health care professionals. Fleece and Thank You is asking the community to send video or photo messages to the health care workers on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The men and women in the medical field are putting themselves on the front lines of battling this virus, many working double, triple time," Nicholas Kristock, founder and CEO of Fleece & Thank You, said in a release. "Many of us would like a way to easi-

ly show our support and appreciation by expressing our gratitude directly to healthcare workers. ... Our platform was uniquely suited to lend itself for this purpose. I just knew we had to share our resources."

The nonprofit, founded in 2015, partnered with the social media effort called #LiftingUpTheFrontLines to share "personalized words of encouragement" with health care professionals.

People can visit [fty.charity/covidsupport](http://fty.charity/covidsupport), where they'll be taken through four steps to upload an encouraging photo or video. Fleece and Thank You will take care of the rest. Health care workers will also have an option to send a video in reply.

For more information, call 313-451-3665 or email [info@fleeceandthankyou.org](mailto:info@fleeceandthankyou.org).

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersley@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersley@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

## Coronavirus pandemic halts pet adoptions and surrenders

Susan Bromley [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Some animals seem to be faring better than usual while their humans endure the coronavirus pandemic.

An executive order to stay home except for employees of businesses deemed essential, and the need for groceries and outdoor exercise (while maintaining social distance) have many pets seeing more of their owners during the work day, and dogs enjoying more walks.

But not all animals are benefiting.

Some are missing out on finding a permanent home, while others may have owners who have lost their jobs and now wonder how to provide food or care for their pets.

"It would normally be a good time to adopt an animal when you're staying at home, to give you a couple weeks of bonding," said Andy Bissonette, spokesman for the Michigan Humane Society. "If you can do nothing but go on walks, it's a perfect time."

But these are anything but normal times. Instead, both the Michigan Humane Society and the Oakland Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Center have halted adoptions and are asking the

public to not surrender any animals.

Oakland Animal Shelter manager and Novi Mayor Bob Gatt said the shelter is trying to limit face-to-face time with the public and keep staff safe in compliance with the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

As the order came down, the shelter had 108 dogs, 94 cats and a rabbit. Staff will continue the normal care for these animals. Gatt said shelter animals are never euthanized unless they are deemed too ill or too dangerous.

"We plan on when we open again, to have all those animals still available," Gatt said. "I expect, but I hope I am wrong, with more people staying at home, it would not shock me to see more animal bites with more interactions, but we have not seen an increase in give-ups."

He is asking the public to not give up an animal during the coronavirus pandemic, but if they find they can't keep one, to find a friend, neighbor or relative who can take the animal.

The Michigan Humane Society's suspension of adoption and surrender services took effect March 13. The organization sent out 5,000 emails seeking to place shelter animals in previously-screened temporary foster homes. Within nine days, it placed 347 animals with

### To get or give help

Visit [www.community-sharing.org](http://www.community-sharing.org) or call 248-889-0347 to learn how you can receive help with food for both people and animals or to make a donation.

To make a veterinary care appointment with the Michigan Humane Society, learn how to receive pet food assistance, or to make a donation, visit [www.michiganhumane.org](http://www.michiganhumane.org).

families.

Bissonette is profoundly grateful for the overwhelming support.

"It's so awesome, everyone stepped up and helped out," he said. "What we are hoping for is a quick resolution to this pandemic, we want to do our part keeping everyone safe and happy, both human and animal." On average, MHS finds homes for 10,000 animals per year. As the pandemic "puts a crimp in things," Bissonette said the animals will "wait a little longer for a permanent home."

For animals that already have homes, but whose owners find themselves struggling to care for them, there is help.

The Michigan Humane Society is offering veterinary care for animals with urgent or "pressing" needs at the Westland shelter. Owners who have made appointments can drive up with their animals and staff will meet them at their vehicles to take the animals inside for care at competitive prices.

MHS will also help pet owners feed their animals with free pet food regardless of income.

That can be picked up from an MHS warehouse at 6175 Trumbull in Detroit.

"If you're having a hard time finding resources to get food, we are that resource," Bissonette said.

The week of March 16, MHS passed out 30,000 pounds of pet food.

Locally, the Community Sharing Food Pantry, which also has a pet food pantry, at the Duck Lake Center in Highland, is available to help residents living within the Huron Valley School District.

Dave Bell, pantry manager and president, said Community Sharing has been feeding people in need for almost 30 years and providing food for pets for families that meet federal income requirements for more than a decade.

On average, the pantry has given out about 180 bags of dry pet food per month, and about 50 containers of kitty litter. The pantry also provides families with a few cans of wet food per animal and treats for dogs. Dog food is donated from charities or local stores, while the nonprofit purchases cat food using monetary donations.

Bell is expecting to see an increase in requests for help at least comparable to what the pantry saw following the 2008 financial crisis when the housing market crashed.

"Visitors come once a month, by the time things picked up (with the coronavirus) last week, most people had been in for the month of March," he said.



### CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18.292

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 18.292 TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT ARTICLE 2.0 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.2 DEFINITIONS; ARTICLE 3.0 ZONING DISTRICTS, SECTION 3.1.21.08-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT; ARTICLE 4.0 USE STANDARDS, SECTION 4.62 INSTRUCTIONAL CENTERS; IN ORDER TO ALLOW 'INSTRUCTION CENTER' AS AN ALLOWABLE USE SUBJECT TO REQUIRED CONDITIONS AND TO DEFINE DIFFERENT TYPES OF INSTRUCTIONAL USES IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, April 6, 2020 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: April 16, 2020

LO-000008107 3x1.8



# Northville Twp. extends payment deadlines

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Township residents will receive a deadline extension on their April water and sewer payment during the coronavirus pandemic.

In a release, Assistant Township Manager/Finance Director Marina Neumaier said the township will extend the

due date for April bills from May 4 to June 5 in the wake of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order.

Residents should have received their April water and sewer bill last week, the release stated.

Township offices are currently closed due to the pandemic. Payment can be made by mail to Northville Township -

Water, P.O. Box 674268, Detroit, MI 48267-4268, or on the township's website.

Mailed payments will be processed by Comerica Bank on the day they are received.

For online payment, the best search option is by address. Enter only your house number, then select your address from the returned search results. Pay-

ments can be made with a credit card or by electronic bank transfer from your bank account.

Convenience fees apply.

Residents having issues with online payments can email communityrelations@twp.northville.mi.us.

Residents with autopay can expect that their payments to be posted May 4. [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com)

# First responders change tactics as virus spreads

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's their job to respond to the vehicle crashes, fires and other emergencies that can kill, but the coronavirus infection taking lives across the nation has put unprecedented pressures on first responders.

Police, firefighters, paramedics and ambulance drivers throughout the region have been taking special precautions to keep themselves and their communities safe during the pandemic.

That may mean showering, wearing protective gear and taking their temperatures throughout their shifts. Like everyone else, they could develop COVID-19 symptoms or unknowingly spread the virus that causes it if they communicate with residents without the proper protections.

They say these first few weeks have given first responders throughout the region a chance to learn how to work together. They're impressed with the cooperation they're seeing. Following orders and recommendations from officials and each other, they want to be ready when the coronavirus pandemic peaks.

## Getting scarier

Wayne and Oakland County officials confirmed April 3 that each county was coping with more than 2,000 cases of COVID-19 and more than 100 deaths due to coronavirus.

Livonia, Westland, Canton Township and Farmington Hills have some of the highest numbers for confirmed cases in the Hometown Life area.

"There's some trepidation, and rightly so," Canton Township Deputy Police Director Chad Baugh said. "I think as a community, we'll be able to ... come out strong. We're going to learn a lot along the way."

A normal number of police officers continue to patrol the township. But they've become more reactive than proactive. They're working intensely to maintain a sense of calm and order.

They're still arresting traffic violators and fugitives. They're focused on keeping violent and intoxicated people off the streets.

"That's who we bring in," Baugh said. "That's just to limit the spread of this virus. We hope to help in that regard."

There have been fewer calls for service. If contact with residents is required, police officers wear masks and gloves. Other protocols include taking more reports over the phone or meeting outside residents' homes.

## Normal, not normal

Bloomfield Township firefighters reverted to some of their normal duties this past week when they assisted Wa-



Bloomfield Township firefighter Alec Rie uses an atomizer gun to disinfect the interior and exterior of an ambulance after a call. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

terford Township with a residential fire involving a downed power line and possible gas leak.

Otherwise, the firefighters who also serve as paramedics are mainly responding to the coronavirus pandemic. That could mean visiting township homes because of reports of a resident with heightened symptoms, or helping neighboring communities like Southfield.

Fire Chief Mike Morin said he's working, cooperating and adapting with Oakland County leaders, who are determining where and when resources are most needed. He has three ambulance teams and the capability to boost that to six.

Protocols keep changing. For example, paramedics can now refuse to transport people to hospitals since experts have said the best recovery environment is a person's home.

Like other agencies, township firefighters are using UV lights and electrostatic sprays for disinfecting purposes. Protection includes face masks, eye protection, face shields, gowns and double gloving. Temperatures are taken three times.

"If they get COVID-19, it's probably from the outside environment, not nec-

essarily from doing their job," Morin said.

Morin said the township could lose 50 percent of its police and firefighting crews to coronavirus symptoms and illness. For now, he thanked his community for its support.

"We're just starting," he said. "We have a couple of months of this. Now is the time to learn how to work together well. We're working great together. Stay home and stay safe."

## Planning, training

Locally, Huron Valley Ambulance responds to emergencies in Plymouth, Plymouth Township, South Lyon, Lyon Township and Green Oak Township.

The company began preparing for a health crisis before the 9/11 terrorist attacks. All the training seems to be paying off, as the ambulance crews adapt to responding to fewer traffic collisions

and making more house calls.

"So far we're doing pretty well," spokesman Marc Breckenridge said.

Crews mask themselves and patients when conducting transports.

A concern is that not everyone knows when they're ill and could be "shedding" the virus.

The company is offering counseling, meals, personal telephone calls and other resources to help paramedics deal with the additional stress. Leaders also are doing their best to keep employees updated on COVID-19.

## Staying ahead of the curve

The South Lyon Police Department is comprised of less than 20 sworn officers. These days, they fill out health questionnaires and take their temperatures before every shift.

Besides being out and about, they've been sharing humorous Facebook posts to maintain morale in the community.

One, shared from another agency, shows three uniformed officers peering through the windows of a dark Dunkin' storefront. "NOW...IT'S PERSONAL," the post reads.

Another post: "The police want you to know that running from them is not social distancing. LOL."

"While our previous post about social distancing was meant to get a laugh and share a joke, the issues and concerns that come along with those that do not practice social distancing is not," they more recently posted on Facebook. "We are all in this together, so let's all do our part to bring this to an end sooner than later."

Lt. Doug Baaki said precautions beyond protective gear include not opening the lobby window when taking gun permits and sanitizing as much as possible.

"We have to be mindful. If one gets sick, then someone else gets sick. It spreads through the department," Baaki said.

South Lyon and Milford, were among the first metro Detroit communities to prohibit use of playgrounds.

The Livonia Police Department announced April 4 that "COVID-19 has struck our staff. A handful of LPD members have tested positive. Fortunately, they are recuperating at home, no one has been hospitalized."

Focusing resources on the patrol division, the department halted several services, including records, FOIA, property and gun purchases until the week of April 13.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on May 6, 2020 at 7:00p.m. to receive public input on the following request in regards to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance: To consider a variance request on premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District, located at 426 Butler St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-001-03-0731-003. The applicant is seeking a variance to construct a new front porch in the front yard setback. The variance needed is 1.5 feet from the requirements in Section 15.01. Due to the State of Michigan Stay Home, Stay Safe order, the April 1, 2020 public hearing and BZA meeting was canceled. The public hearing is rescheduled and will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE in compliance with Executive Order 2020-15, issued by Michigan Governor Whitmer, temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings. Members of the public body and members of the public participating electronically will be considered present at the meeting and may participate as if physically present at the meeting.

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The variance application is available for review on the City's website: <https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=13642897>. OR from the main Home page, click on the Services tab, then Building and Planning, then Board of Zoning Appeals.

Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request must be submitted by 4:30pm on May 5, 2020 at City of Northville Municipal Building, City Clerk, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, or using the City Hall drop box located in the 24-hour vestibule, or by email to [dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us).

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Published April 16, 2020



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## Midwives

Continued from Page 1A

is booked to attend at least 30 births within a 60-mile radius of her Chelsea home, driving to women who live in Washtenaw County, as well as many who live in Oakland, Wayne, and Livingston counties.

"It's a sad situation pregnant moms are in. They are sad and panicking," Groenenberg said. "I have a cap, but with this COVID, I have opened my schedule and will be attending triple the amount (of births)."

Groenenberg, who works without an assistant most of the time, is praying the women don't go into labor on the same day. She is in contact with a network of about 50 midwives in Michigan, including Wendy Pinter, who may be able to offer backup.

However, Pinter, who owns Nine Short Months Birth and Community Wellness Center in Southfield, has also been seeing a deluge of calls.

"You can tell, the hospitals are starting to release the numbers of staff who are sick, and (pregnant women) need to protect themselves from people who have sickness," Pinter said. "We went from no one due right now to 20 women due any day."

Sarah Loftus, 32, is one of those women, due April 18 with her third child, a boy to be named Andrew.

The Livonia native, who now lives in Grosse Ile, gave birth to her first child, Nathan, four years ago at Royal Oak Beaumont's natural birthing center, and her second child, Hannah, two years ago in the labor and delivery unit at the hospital after she had to be induced due to a condition involving her liver and gallbladder.

Loftus has always wanted a water birth and expects to finally get her wish, although it won't be at the Providence birthing center as she had planned before the pandemic.

As both Beaumont and Providence began filling with COVID-19 patients, her alarm grew, particularly as she heard stories coming out of New York and elsewhere of women giving birth alone due to visitor restrictions imposed to mitigate the spread of coronavirus.

"The biggest thing to me was the support," she said. "I always have a doula for birth and all the hospitals, very quickly



Shelby Eicher delivers Haven in 2018 with the assistance of midwife Celeste Groenenberg, right, while Eicher's husband, Quinn, looks on at their home in Manitou Beach. Groenenberg says she has seen an increase in requests for home births amid the coronavirus pandemic. COURTESY OF THE EICHER FAMILY

after they started receiving COVID patients, they started restricting doulas. I consider my doula my epidural. They are your support person, like a really nice husband."

Loftus said doulas are now be allowed to attend births, but she is sticking to the plan to have Pinter deliver her baby in a tub at the birthing center, avoiding hospitals altogether and reducing the risk to herself and her newborn of exposure to coronavirus.

### Weighing the risks

Dr. Leonard Johnson, program director and chief of the division of infectious diseases at Ascension St. John Hospital in Detroit, said there does not seem to be a reduction in the number of women coming in for routine deliveries.

The hospital system is administering COVID-19 tests to pregnant women who have symptoms of the disease when they arrive for delivery or who have been hospitalized, and some have tested positive, but none have experienced serious complications, he said.

"There does not seem to be an increased risk of worsened disease in pregnant women with COVID-19, as opposed to influenza, which may have more serious complications in a pregnant woman, versus a woman of the same age who is not pregnant," Johnson said. "However, there have been reports of women developing severe pneumonia, due to COVID, with occasional infections transmitted to the infant. That is really uncommon."

The women diagnosed with COVID-19 are generally young and healthy and may have gone undiagnosed had they not come to the hospital to give birth, as "most people at home with COVID-19 aren't getting tested," he said.

He said some infants have been tested, but he is unaware of any testing positive for the disease.

Johnson said extensive precautions are taken to avoid transmission of the coronavirus to health care workers and other patients: everyone who enters the hospital is screened for symptoms, and the number of visitors allowed has been limited.

Additionally, health care workers are wearing masks in all patient care areas in case they are asymptomatic, to reduce the risk of transmission. There is an increased emphasis on early recognition of signs and symptoms so patients can receive a rapid test and are placed in isolation as early on as possible. Lastly, Johnson noted, obstetric units are in a separate area of the hospital, with private room, "thus, there is no risk of patient-to-patient transmission of the virus."

"The low potential risk of acquiring COVID-19 from a hospital stay must be balanced with the potential benefits of having close monitoring for unexpected events during the delivery that can be quickly addressed in a hospital setting and cannot be always addressed as well at a home birth," Johnson said.

Pinter, a practicing midwife since 2007, said she has encountered doubts for years about the safety of births outside a hospital setting.

"I think in the past, a lot of people were like, 'Sure, you want a good experience, but what about safety, why put that out the window just for a good experience?' " she said. "I don't think what we are doing is unsafe. We are really good at taking care of and recognizing normal and handling things when they go outside that in an appropriate facility with appropriate care providers and



Sarah Loftus, of Livonia, who is 39 weeks pregnant, expects to give birth with the help of a midwife. COURTESY OF SARAH LOFTUS

taking care of them. A normal birth does not require a full medical team."

### 'Empowering experience'

Midwives do not offer drugs for labor pain management and are "low-tech," able to monitor the vital signs of mother and baby and stitch tears that may occur, but lacking the equipment or expertise to handle C-sections or other medical intervention should complications arise.

"Moms deliver and we are just there to assist and catch, we're just there to make sure everybody is safe," said Groenenberg, who has attended 240 home births. "We assess normalcy, make sure everything is going well and normal. ... We want them to have a beautiful, empowering experience."

Pinter and Groenenberg stress that because of increased interest in and short-notice requests for their services, they carefully screen clients and only accept low-risk candidates – typically women who have previously given birth naturally without any complications.

Natural births without complications typically are cheaper than a hospital birth. Groenenberg charges about \$3,000-\$3,500, which includes all pre- and postnatal care. Pinter charges about \$6,000 on average.

A stumbling block for many mothers is that deliveries assisted by midwives aren't usually covered by insurance.

Pinter said that may be changing. Twice in the past week, she was told by a medical billing firm that insurance would cover deliveries.

"They are starting to make exceptions when they normally wouldn't, apparently because of COVID," she said. "I'm not sure what alternate universe we are in that suddenly they are willing to pay for something that costs half of what it would in a hospital."

Pattipati, however, has been told that her insurance won't cover a home birth delivery attended by Groenenberg. She plans to use an appeals process and is moving forward regardless, motivated to protect her family's health, including her 4-year-old daughter Ayana, who has asthma.

"Before we made this decision, I was really stressed out and worried, thinking every day, 'What if I jeopardize my older daughter, giving birth to the younger one?' " she recalls. "A lot more women are considering home birth, but it's only available to those who can afford it out of pocket, up front. Once we managed that piece, we decided, we will just do it."

Now that she has Groenenberg's services secured, she is more relaxed, and her entire family is anticipating the birth with mixed levels of excitement. Ayana wants to cut the baby's umbilical cord, while her sons want "nothing to do with it" and plan to turn up the volume on their electronics to avoid hearing anything from the birthing room.

The new baby's book will have an interesting entry under "current events," Pattipati noted. She thought she would be writing about elections, but instead it will say, "Coronavirus!"

"I feel so bad for everybody, they should be celebrating," Groenenberg said. "... Be safe with baby, that's all you can do."

Loftus is also relieved with to have a birth plan in place.

"I would be worried if we had to call an ambulance or go to the hospital, that is who is falling sick with it: ambulance drivers and police officers and medical staff," she said. "There is no option that makes you feel the best. ... But at the birthing center, you give birth and once you feel up to it, you go home in about four to six hours."

Loftus said this will be her last baby, but even with the current challenges, she is grateful.

"I can add this to my superhero powers, having a baby during a pandemic," she joked.



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## Suicide

Continued from Page 1A

"I never said anything," Majoros said. "Now, I'm like, 'OK. Now, I'll say something.' Because ... geez, we lost a person because we didn't say anything. That's terrible."

Majoros shares her story while talking to other suicide survivors. She's more committed to listening when answering crisis line calls.

She may hear about finances, loneliness, domestic violence and other hardships that could lead to thoughts of suicide.

Depending on what she hears, she'll ask the callers whether they've considered suicide.

"Asking that question is amazing," the Farmington resident said. "It's such a scary question, I guess, if you think about it, but it can be such a lifesaving question."

"You could be bringing up something that someone has held in. It can give them so much peace that you're conjuring it up. I do ask that question more often than not."

Majoros has been working the crisis line for about a decade. She has realized there's no perfect call.

Connecting with a person who needs support should have positive benefits, no matter what. The best connections seem to come from asking questions.

"You dig in and you explore in a nice, nonjudgmental way," she said. "It's kind of cool to, like, excavate and figure out what's happening."

"It's cool to be on the call when someone realizes something that they maybe didn't know before when you're talking to them."

The experience has helped her come

### COMMON GROUND: HOW TO TALK ABOUT SUICIDE

If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, contact Common Ground at 1-800-231-1127.

Problematic	Preferred	
committed suicide	died by suicide	The word "committed" is associated with criminal behavior. Changing the phrase decriminalizes the act.
failed suicide	suicide attempt	Words glamorizing suicided tries, like "failed" or "unsuccessful", should be avoided
successful suicide	took their own life	The word "successful" suggests that suicide is the desired outcome.

Observer & Eccentric  
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### About this series

Suicide has long been a subject most people avoid talking about publicly, yet suicides in metro Detroit counties have increased in recent years.

This is the third in a series of stories examining the topic.

to terms with the past and her brother's decision to die.

She described him as quirky, creative and super smart. They were never incredibly close. She remains sad that she didn't know his favorite color.

She considers the intensity of the pain that drove him to die by suicide.

"I wish I could have been there for him and asked those questions that I now ask people every week," Majoros said. "That kind of crushes me a little bit."

She advises people to talk about suicide. People who want to end their lives should try finding someone, even if it's a stranger, to share what they're experi-

encing. They're likely to learn what Majoros has: people feel like killing themselves all the time.

"When my brother tried to kill himself, I felt like we were the only people that had ever happened to," she said. "We were terrible and we were broken and we were bad."

"That's what I'm guessing a suicidal person might feel – that isolation and aloneness, too."

The crisis line is always available, and volunteers make sure to let others know they're not alone and that there are resources available.

Majoros encourages those coping with a suicidal loved one to not give up



Sara Majoros lost her brother to suicide about 20 years ago. She works for Common Ground to help others.  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

on that person. Checking in with them and listening to them are approved strategies.

"Listening is the coolest and easiest thing," Majoros said. "When someone feels really heard and understood, it kind of empowers them."

On a yearly basis, Common Ground has about 80 active volunteers and interns doing work for its resource and crisis helpline.

To reach crisis line volunteers, dial 800-231-1127.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susan-vela.

## Hospital

Continued from Page 1A

pandemic. We will get through this by working together to care for all those in need."

Gone off the calendar for the convention center is Motor City Comic Con, which was canceled late last month.

The center's website shows the next event scheduled, the Women's Show, taking place June 25-28, though it's uncertain how long the field hospital will be in place. It may be ready for patients as soon as Monday, and officials said it will open with 250 beds and can expand if needed.

Figures from the state Monday indicated 25,635 people have contracted the virus across Michigan, and 2,602 people

have died as a result of it.

Most of those cases are concentrated in southeast Michigan, with most being in Wayne and Oakland counties.

The TCF Center in downtown Detroit was named a field hospital last month and began its transformation shortly after. Other locations across the state are being looked at as potential treatment facilities.

"This is more good news for Michi-

ganders in our fight against COVID-19," said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in a news release.

"Having access to more medical facilities and more space for health care professionals to perform their life-saving work means we are more able to slow the spread of COVID-19. Fighting this virus is going to take all of us working together as Michiganders. ... We will get through this."

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## CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP



Milford senior Clayre Shaver was close to breaking several school records this spring before the pandemic halted sports.  
COURTESY OF CLAY SHAVER

## Milford track star refuses to let pandemic slow her down

**Andrew Vaillencourt**  
HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The coronavirus outbreak may be taking away her senior season, but Milford senior Clayre Shaver isn't letting the virus ruin her spring.

The track and field star is within striking distance of school records in

both discus throw and shot put, but with the season canceled, Shaver will remain at fifth and sixth, respectively, in the school record books.

In one sense, Shaver is lucky. She is one of the few high school athletes who will be competing at the collegiate level, having signed with Eastern Illinois University where she plans to study sports management and kinesiology. However,

that doesn't take away from the goals she set for herself and the team this spring.

"It was definitely rough at first to think of all the stuff I was missing out on," Shaver said. "I had all of these goals to break school records and stuff, but I have been trying to stay positive

See **TRACK**, Page 2B

## Old Dominion cancels wrestling program

**Collin Gay** HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Marc Shaeffer thought it was a poorly-timed April Fool's joke.

When the Detroit Catholic Central senior wrestler looked at his phone after finishing his work on his family's farm, he saw it had exploded: notification after notification, call after call, text after text.

Shaeffer, committed to Old Dominion wrestling at the time, returned the call of his upcoming assistant coach Kevin Beazley, a former All-American wrestler for the Shamrocks.

"We don't know many details right now, but yeah, they are shutting us down," Shaeffer said Beazley told him. "I'm so sorry."

Old Dominion, the wrestling program in Norfolk, Virginia, both Shaeffer and heavyweight Steven Kolchek committed to join this fall, announced April 2 it would discontinue the sport.

"No one wants to reduce opportunities for young men to compete and represent Old Dominion, but we are required to be responsible with departmental resources," Old Dominion director of athletics Dr. Camden Wood Selig said in a statement. "Our decision became even more clear during this coronavirus crisis, which we know will have significant impact on future athletic budgets."

On the same day Michigan ended the in-person school year for all K-12 students in the state, on the same day Kolchek and Shaeffer lost the remainder of their senior year, both lost their future at Old Dominion.

In a matter of moments, both Kolchek's and Shaeffer's futures took a complete 180.

"They were told in one day that they would have no prom, that they would have no senior baccalaureate mass, that they would have no graduation," Catholic Central wrestling head coach Mitch Hancock said. "All of these things that they were looking forward to as a senior were actually being taken away from them because of this virus."

"On top of that, being told that not only is this stuff being taken from you, and something they were looking

See **WRESTLING**, Page 2B

## Gay lists top 10 games of 2019-20 high school season

**Collin Gay** HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coming into the 2019-20 school year, I was unfamiliar with Michigan high school sports, a Houston native and an Ohio State graduate that had never lived in the state before.

Looking back at a year cut short — from all the time spent on the sideline of soccer and football games to talking with coaches after hockey and basketball games — I have seen some memorable moments in my first year as an official Michigander.

Hometown Life sports reporter Andrew Vaillencourt and I have each compiled a list of the 10 best games we have covered this school year. As we wait for high school sports to return to the metro Detroit area, here is a look at what I think are the best games I covered this year.

### Honorable Mentions

**North Farmington secures first victory despite late Groves surge**

■ Coming into the season opener coming off a 2-17 last-place finish, the

North Farmington girls basketball team showed progress from the start, holding onto a lead despite a late surge from Birmingham Groves in the fourth quarter.

**Groves basketball's collapse against Southfield A&T ends season**

■ In a game most Groves fans would like to forget, Southfield A&T stormed back, outscoring the Falcons 38-18 in the final 5:33. Southfield A&T forward Caleb secured the collapse with a four-point swing in the final 10 seconds, prompting a rowdy crowd to storm the

See **TOP 10**, Page 4B



The Mercy bench and coach Loretta Vogel, left, celebrates a point by their team. JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Get More Sports

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# Church virtually hosts Milford Easter Dash

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Oak Pointe Church, 1250 S. Hill Road, in Milford announced details for its seventh annual Milford Easter Dash – now a virtual run in light of the COVID-19 public health crisis.

The Milford Easter Dash features three separate races: a 5K run/walk, a 10K run, and a one-mile fun run. Competitors can walk, run or hop any course they like any time by April 18 by using the apps Strava or Garmin to record and submit results. Please note, although Strava or Garmin is needed to participate in the competitive part of the race, participants do not need these apps to participate in the event overall.

Proceeds will support Grace Centers of Hope, one of the largest faith-based life-skills programs in Michigan for the homeless and addicted.

"We are thrilled to continue offering our support to Grace Centers of Hope through our annual Milford Easter Dash," Oak Pointe Church Connections Coordinator Debra Muller said. "We know many people have been craving a sense of normalcy right now and running or walking outside can greatly help. I hope in the midst of the difficulties we are facing that our community will come together – virtually – and run or walk in support of Grace Centers of Hope."

Registration is open now through April 18 and will be capped at 300 participants. Every participant will have the opportunity to safely pick up their commemorative bib number and a finisher's

medal from Oak Pointe Church from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 18. Prizes will be awarded to the top male and female competitor on each course and will be announced on the event Facebook page.

"If speed's not your game, we still have a way for our competitors to win through our costume contest," Muller said. "Simply submit your race selfie to our Facebook page wearing your Easter-y best and you will be entered to win a pair of our fabulous social distancing socks."

Registration is \$30 per person for the 5K, \$35 per person for the 10K, and \$17 for the one mile run and can be completed at [www.milfordeasterdash.com](http://www.milfordeasterdash.com).

GCH has helped men, women and children transition from homelessness and addiction to stable housing, sobriety and employment. The nonprofit organization's comprehensive programs provide daily meals, clothing, personal hygiene, individual and group therapy, Bible study and church service, mentorship/discipleship, work therapy, and financial planning.

"We are so very thankful to our wonderful friends at Oak Pointe Church for their love and support of Grace Centers of Hope," Grace Centers of Hope CEO Pastor Kent W. Clark said. "During these difficult times when we must come together as a community, we are truly humbled by the outpouring of support from the greater Milford community and everyone associated with the Milford Easter Dash."

For more information about Grace Centers of Hope, call 1-855-HELP-GCH or visit [www.gracecentersofhope.org](http://www.gracecentersofhope.org).



Participants celebrate finishing last year's Milford Easter Dash. This year, the competition returns in a slightly different way. COURTESY OF MILFORD EASTER DASH

## Track

Continued from Page 1B

and control what I can control. I've been training on my own and I've been treating it as if the season was still on."

In her newfound free time, Shaver continues to train and is making visits to the high school track on days where she would have otherwise had a team meet. She has already closed the gap on both school records and now trails the Milford school record in shot put by 4-foot-3 inches (was previously five feet) and in discus by 11 feet (was previously 20 feet).

She's posting her results from each meet day on her Twitter account.

"I still have my goals and I'm hoping to break numbers, even if they don't count toward things," Shaver said. "It still helps me get better before college."

When she initially decided to continue the season on her own, the MHSAA had only suspended the high school sports calendar. Now that's it's been canceled, she still plans to train throughout the season and stick to her plan.

"I was still holding out hope that something was going to happen," Shaver said. "It gave me more motivation to keep working because a lot of people can sit at home and be sad about what's happening, or you can get up and do something. Having that schedule already in place has helped me keep on track with my training."

Milford's girls track and field team has been dominant in Lakes Valley Conference play during Shaver's career, go-



Clayre Shaver competes during a meet last year. COURTESY OF CLAY SHAVER

ing undefeated in league play each of the past three seasons. She'll still graduate undefeated in the conference, but wishes she had the chance to stretch the

streak to all four of her high school years.

She'll also miss out on her last chance at making the state meet. She

qualified in the discus throw last spring, but had her sights set on qualifying in shot put this year, as well.

"I was pretty disappointed because I only qualified in one event last year and came up just short in the other," Shaver said. "I was really hoping to double qualify this year and do both events and be able to show up on the big stage."

She gave credit to the Mavericks coaching staff for staying positive with the team and keeping everyone in touch virtually. It's been especially hard on her teammates and fellow seniors who aren't competing at the next level.

"I know a lot of my senior friends were very disappointed about losing their opportunities," Shaver said. "My message to them was that obviously this does hurt a lot that we're losing this last season and this last little bit that we have together, but we can just think about all the memories we've already made and hold onto those and remember the past because we can't really control the future, so we just have to stay safe."

Shaver holds out hope that her club season, scheduled to start in June, will still go on as planned, but nothing is certain at this point. In the meantime, she's staying focused on her training and the 10-12 meets she has planned for herself over the next couple of months.

"I love track and I love competing so this gives me a bit of a challenge and let's things feel more normal," Shaver said.

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at [avaiillenc@hometownlife.com](mailto:avaiillenc@hometownlife.com) or 810-923-0659. Twitter: @AndrewV-court. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

## Wrestling

Continued from Page 1B

forward to in going to Old Dominion, now that's gone."

Shaeffer's mother saw him standing outside for 15-20 minutes, looking at his phone in apparent disbelief. When she asked him what had happened Shaeffer broke down in tears telling her the news.

Shaeffer, a second-year member of the CC wrestling team after transferring from Davison, said his faith is strong, feeling that this is all happening for a reason. He said he needs to keep his faith.

This faith is what allowed him to move forward.

"After about 10 minutes of crying," Shaeffer said, "I kind of wiped the tears away and made some calls."

### Next step

Kolcheff had been sitting outside with his father by a bonfire when he heard the news of Old Dominion discontinuing its wrestling program.

He felt a sense of disbelief, a sense of bewilderment. For the senior, it came

out of nowhere, but it quickly became reality.

"It didn't really register to me," Kolcheff said. "You could hear the sadness in Coach Beazley's voice."

But like Shaeffer, after the initial sadness, the immediate next step was to find a new home for the next four years, something Kolcheff, a two-time state individual champion at heavyweight, was extremely confident in.

"I'm a true believer in things happening for a reason," Kolcheff said. "I'm thinking this will turn out better for me. I'm just keeping my eyes forward and the future is still bright for me."

With the Catholic Central wrestling program behind them, both Shaeffer and Kolcheff reopened their recruitment, hearing from schools as soon as one hour after the announcement by Old Dominion was made.

Hancock was there for both of his wrestlers every step of the way, scheduling a Zoom call with both of them as soon as he could after they heard the news.

His one piece of advice to them was to keep faith in the recruiting process, that another door will open when the time is right.

It did not take long for that to be

proved correct.

"I think the recruiting is hotter now than it was this past fall when they were on the market," Hancock said.

For Kolcheff, his decision came quickly. The senior decided to join Catholic Central teammate Josh Edmond in Columbia and commit to Missouri.

"The atmosphere at the University of Missouri is unmatched," Kolcheff said. "The coaches, the team and the whole organization seems like a massive family who are extremely close with each other. It's the perfect fit for me and I look forward to being a Tiger."

Shaeffer has narrowed his college decision down to North Dakota State, Bucknell, Maryland, Navy, Cleveland State and Ohio University. He expects to make his decision within the next week or two, saying he wants time to make the right decision, but understanding that coaches want to fill their recruiting classes as soon as possible.

### Rich history erased

As a former Division 1 college wrestler — earning NCAA All-American honors at Central Michigan as a senior in 2005 — Hancock knows what wrestling

means to any college athletic program.

While trying to secure that experience for his two wrestlers that were committed to Old Dominion, he couldn't help but feel for the other people that were affected.

"I feel terrible for the 30 guys there, the coaching staff that were recruited to go to school there and represent Old Dominion, and are told in the middle of this COVID virus that 'You guys have to find another home,'" Hancock said.

Kolcheff and Shaeffer were planning on joining an Old Dominion wrestling program with a rich history.

The Monarchs have had 23 All-Americans since the program's inception in the 1957-58 school year. Head coach Steve Martin has been with the program for 16 seasons.

"It seems like, in the world we are in today, wrestling is not valued as much as it should be," Shaeffer said. "I think it teaches a lot of life lessons like hard work, setting goals, trusting the process. I definitely think right now, given what just happened at Old Dominion and their past success, it's not valued at all, which is sad."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17.



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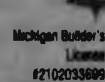
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## Top 10

Continued from Page 1B

Farmington gym at the buzzer.

**South Lyon football defeats Lakeland in fourth quarter comeback win**

■ Facing a 17-6 deficit late in the fourth quarter, South Lyon peaked at the right time, as quarterback Connor Fracassi found wide receiver Brenden Lach twice for two touchdowns in the comeback win against Lakes Valley Conference rival Lakeland on the road.

### Gay's Top 10

**10. Seaholm football surges past Groves in district final**

■ After losing to Groves during the regular season, Seaholm stepped up and beat its district rival in a dominant 42-7 road win in the district final of the playoffs. In terms of shock value, this game was unexpected to say the least.

**9. John Glenn basketball collapses, survives Livonia Stevenson**

■ Coming off an eight-point loss to Belleville, John Glenn looked like it had returned to its normal self. However, a 17-4 Stevenson run in the fourth quarter led to one of the most memorable and even dogfights of the year on the basketball court that the Rockets came out on top of.

**8. Brother Rice hockey earns revenge against Hartland**

■ One of my first experiences with Michigan high school hockey was a chance at revenge for Brother Rice. Two goals against Hartland in the final 5:19 gave the Warriors revenge after falling to the Eagles in the 2019 state semifinal.

**7. Livonia Churchill football secures first-round playoff win late against Dexter**

■ Livonia Churchill, one of the best stories from the 2019 football season, came back from a 20-6 second-quarter deficit, as quarterback Gavin Brooks and wide receivers Brendan Lowry and Shane Morelli led the Chargers to a first-round playoff win on the road against Dexter.

**6. Mercy volleyball downs Marian in five-set thriller**

■ Marian gave Mercy volleyball, the

eventual Division 1 state champions, a scare in the regional semifinal. After Mercy amounted to a two-set lead, Marian won the next two, including a 30-28 fourth-set thriller. But the Marlins came back, winning the fifth set and earning enough momentum to earn their first state title.

**5. Catholic Central wrestling rolls to first-place finish at CC Invitational**

■ I had heard about Detroit Catholic Central wrestling and the dominance the Shamrocks showed each meet. From Josh Edmond's quick first move to Manny Rojas' performance, it was a good representation of what was to come for Catholic Central.

**4. North Farmington football wins 'The Jug,' defeats Farmington for league title**

■ With all of the preseason hype surrounding the rivalry, the first meeting between North Farmington and Farmington did not disappoint. The Raiders came out on top of a low-scoring, yet highly emotional contest to remain undefeated.

**3. Bloomfield Hills boys basketball upsets North Farmington in overtime thriller**

■ In what may be the biggest upset I witnessed this year, Bloomfield Hills boys basketball, a team that ended the season with three conference wins, ended a nine-game losing streak with an overtime win against North Farmington.

**2. Franklin football secures city championship in triple-overtime win at Churchill**

■ Tied at 28 at the end of regulation, the offenses for both Livonia Churchill and Livonia Franklin came to life in overtime, as both teams traded scores until the Patriots took advantage of a missed Chargers extra point in triple overtime to secure the city title.

**1. Groves football wins stunner against West Bloomfield**

■ This game was cinematic. Colby Taylor fumbled the ball in the endzone, allowing West Bloomfield, the favorite, to tie the game in the fourth quarter. Instead of going to overtime, quarterback Markis Alexander found Eli Turner on a back-shoulder ball to record the upset.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com).



Groves wide receiver Eli Turner celebrates after scoring the winning touchdown against West Bloomfield this past season. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Obituaries

### Robert "Bob" and V. Claudine "Deanie" McFarling

**FARMINGTON** - Robert "Bob" McFarling passed away on March 10, 2020. V. Claudine "Deanie" "Mac" McFarling passed away on February 20, 2020. Bob was 97 years old, born in South Dakota to the late Cyrus Asa and Olive McFarling. Deanie was 96 years old, born in Kansas to the late William I. and Mildred. They spent over 75 years together in marriage. Bob was soft-spoken, kind, gentle, and had a heart of gold. Bob was a retired ordained minister, but Deanie was not the typical "preacher's wife." She was outspoken, brutally honest, quick-witted, friendly and charmingly sarcastic.

Raised on a farm in South Dakota, Bob earned a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Theology degrees from Anderson (College) University in Anderson, Indiana. Raised on a farm in Colorado, Deanie graduated from high school in Pueblo, Colorado. She attended Anderson (College) University in Anderson, Indiana.

Bob served as associate pastor at Park Place Church of God in Anderson, followed by service as pastor of the Church of God in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and then Boise, Idaho. Bob and Deanie moved to the Midwest where Bob served as associate pastor of Pennway Church of God in Lansing, Michigan and then associate pastor of Riverside Park Church of God in Livonia, Michigan. Deanie had a career as a ward clerk at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Michigan. Together they raised five children.

Bob's ministry included roles as Boy Scout leader, youth and young adults pastor, parenting class leader and daycare/nursery school director at New Schools Children's Center. He loved organizing camps and retreats for various groups. He served as Project Director for the Child Care Coordinating



Council of Detroit/Wayne County. In retirement, he taught leadership development, and led gardening and senior groups for Elderwise, and the greater community. Deanie enjoyed yardwork, baking (especially pizza and pie), needlework, sewing, home decorating and upholstery.

Bob and Deanie were talented creative writers and belonged to a writing group for seniors. They loved to travel to visit relatives all over the country. Both were loving grandparents and great-grandparents-- always interested in their descendants' lives from afar.

Bob and Deanie spent most of retirement at their home in Westland, Michigan, moving to Farmington, Michigan for their final years. After attending the Church of God for most of their lives, Bob and Deanie became members of First United Methodist Church in Northville, Michigan and attended there for more than 20 years.

Bob and Deanie are survived by sons Larry (Serita) McFarling and Scott McFarling, daughter Jeanette (Alex) Mills, grandchildren Jason (Liz) Kaan, Mark (Trisha) McFarling, Melissa Kaan, Aaron (Jennifer) McFarling, Lindsey McKennett, Jeremy (Adriana Keaton) Mills, and Cassandra (Jordan) Veres, and great-grandchildren, Brandon, Jacob, Casey and Hannah McFarling, Abbilyn, Brynley, and Brody Kaan, Vivienne, Evangeline and Beatrix Tabor, Kayden and Maia McKennett, and Odin and Frances Mills, and many siblings, nieces, and nephews. Bob and Deanie were preceded in death by their daughters Louise Kaan and Judy McKennett, their son-in-law Richard McKennett, and their grandchildren Michael and Megan McKennett.

A memorial service will be held in the future at First United Methodist Church, Northville, Michigan, 777 Eight Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167. Interment will be at the memorial garden of First United Methodist Church, Northville. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church, Northville.

### Mary J. Padget

Mary J. Padget passed peacefully to the other side April 8, 2020.

Mother, daughter, and friend, she loved people, loved to travel, and as an RN was a wonderful caregiver. She was preceded in death by her husband Bill Craft, first husband John Padget, and her son James. She leaves behind son John, daughters Anne and Carol, and grandchildren Daniel, Michael, and Annalisa. Love you mom, you will be missed!





# CHSL releases boys hoops postseason honors

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Catholic High School League released its postseason awards for the 2019-20 boys basketball season.

Representatives from Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood and Detroit Catholic Central are on the list of All-Academic, All-League and All-Catholic

teams.

Here is a look at who made the list from the Hometown Life area:

## All-Academic

Grant Landry, senior, Cranbrook Kingswood  
Zach Maynard, senior, Brother Rice  
Josiah Smith, senior, Catholic Central

## All-League

Jack Fairman, senior, Cranbrook Kingswood  
Sam Hauxwell, senior, Cranbrook Kingswood  
Ryan Logan, senior, Catholic Central  
Xavier Thomas, freshman, Brother Rice  
Curtis Williams, freshman, Brother Rice

## All-Catholic

Jon Brantley, senior, Brother Rice  
Cooper Craggs, sophomore, Catholic Central  
Cameron Garner, junior, Cranbrook Kingswood  
Jordan Roebuck, senior, Cranbrook Kingswood  
Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com).

## South Lyon United swim team wins 3rd straight LVC title

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For the third year in a row, the South Lyon United (SLU) boys swim and dive team won the Lakes Valley Conference swim meet. South Lyon also won the regular season with a record of 5-0.

Max Topping and Jared Keeney were the top scorers of the night. Topping took first place finishes in 200 IM and 100 Breaststroke. Keeney took first in the 100 Backstroke where he qualified for the DI state meet. Topping and Keeney were part of the first place relay finishes for the 200 medley relay and 200 free relay. Jacob Fischer had two second place finishes on 200 IM and 100 Breaststroke. John Abernethy had a second place finish for the 500 Freestyle. Eric Perczak also had a second place finish in the 100 fly.

### Lakes Valley Conference swim meet results

200 Yard Medley Relay: 1. South Lyon (Jared Keeney, Jacob Fischer, Max Topping, John Abernethy), 1:41.67; 2. Huron Valley; 3. Walled Lake Northern; 4. Waterford; 5. Walled Lake Central; 6. Walled Lake Western

200 Yard Freestyle: 1. Walled Lake Northern; 2. Walled Lake Western; 3. John Abernethy (SLU), 1:50.10; 4. Nick Finn (SLU) 1:50.30; 5. Andrew Brenner (SLU) 1:53.21; 6. Walled Lake Central; 7. Walled Lake Northern; 8. Waterford



The South Lyon United boys won the Lakes Valley Conference championship.

COURTESY OF JENNIFER TOPPING

200 Individual Medley: 1. Max Topping (SLU), 2:02.22; 2. Jacob Fischer (SLU), 2:08.55; 3. Waterford; 4. Walled Lake Western; 5. Tyler Moody (SLU), 2:12.19; 6. Leo Vardanega (SLU), 2:14.33; 7. Walled Lake Northern; 8. Walled Lake Central

50 Freestyle: 1. Walled Lake Western; 2. Waterford; 2. Walled Lake Western; 4. Eric Perczak (SLU), 22.55; 5. Walled Lake Central; 6. Walled Lake Central; 7. Huron Valley; 8. Huron Valley  
1 meter Diving: 1. Waterford; 2. Walled

Lake Northern; 3. Huron Valley; 4. Cole Heaman (SLU), 270.85; 5. Huron Valley; 6. Huron Valley; 7. Walled Lake Northern; 8. Huron Valley

100 Yard Butterfly: 1. Walled Lake Northern; 2. Eric Perczak (SLU), 52.34; 3. Huron Valley; 4. Jared Keeney (SLU), 53.54; 5. Waterford; 6. Aidan Moorehead (SLU), 56.60; 7. Walled Lake Western; 8. Huron Valley

100 Yard Freestyle: 1. Walled Lake Western; 2. Walled Lake Western; 3. Nick Finn (SLU), 51.32; 4. Huron Valley;

5. Huron Valley; 6. Huron Valley; 7. Owen Showek (SLU), 53.22; 8. Walled Lake Northern

500 Freestyle: 1. Walled Lake Western; 2. John Abernethy (SLU), 4:54.98; 3. Andrew Brenner (SLU), 5:07.70; 4. Walled Lake Western; 5. Walled Lake Northern; 6. Tyler Moody (SLU), 5:21.87; 7. Maguire Topping (SLU), 5:27.85; 8. Huron Valley

200 Freestyle Relay: 1. South Lyon (Jared Keeney, Nick Finn, Max Topping, Eric Perczak), 1:30.25; 2. Walled Lake Western; 3. Waterford; 4. Huron Valley; 5. Walled Lake Northern; 6. Walled Lake Central

100 Yard Backstroke: 1. Jared Keeney (SLU), 54.68; 2. Huron Valley; 3. Huron Valley; 4. Walled Lake Northern; 5. Aidan Moorehead (SLU), 59.55; 6. Leo Vardanega (SLU), 1:00.23; 7. Walled Lake Western; 8. Walled Lake Western

100 Yard Breaststroke: 1. Max Topping (SLU), 59.89; 2. Jacob Fischer (SLU), 1:03.87; 3. Walled Lake Northern; 4. Waterford; 5. Huron Valley; 6. Walled Lake Western; 7. Huron Valley; 8. Owen Showek (SLU), 1:10.42

400 Freestyle Relay: 1. Walled Lake Western; 2. Huron Valley; 3. South Lyon (Nick Finn, John Abernethy, Andrew Brenner, Eric Perczak), 3:23.25; 4. Walled Lake Northern; 5. Walled Lake Central; 6. Waterford

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at [avai@hometownlife.com](mailto:avai@hometownlife.com) or 810-923-0659. Twitter: @AndrewV-court. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

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## the job network

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### Tried, tested job search hacks that will get you hired

 Eric Titner  
[thejobnetwork.com](http://thejobnetwork.com)

In today's winner-take-all, ultra-competitive job market, smart candidates take full advantage of every opportunity to get ahead of the competition in order to get noticed and be taken seriously by today's savvy hiring managers. Simply put, if you're not approaching your job search with this level of all-or-nothing seriousness, then you're putting yourself at a tremendous disadvantage – and are making it easier for more engaged candidates to succeed.

So, unless you just like the process of hunting for jobs with no end in sight, then it's time to start taking your job search game to the next level. Regardless of your industry, age, background, skill set, or experience level, there are tried and tested hacks that you can take advantage of to help you cut through the competition, get off the job search treadmill, and lock down your next great job opportunity.

#### Maintain authenticity

These days, it's harder than ever before to connect meaningfully with an HR manager or hiring personnel. They're usually swamped with resumes and cover letters from highly polished candidates with similar backgrounds who overpromise and work tirelessly to come off as improbably flawless – so much so that it can be hard to tell one from another. If you aim to be the "perfect candidate," not only will you get lost in the crowd, but you also will seem too good to be true to folks who have been in the recruiting world for a while and have incredibly sharp lie detection skills. Trying to put one past them can be a real



GETTY IMAGES

risk.

Make the choice to be authentic at every stage of the job search process – avoid over-embellishing, exaggerating, and making outright lies. When telling the story of who you are on your documents and in interviews, be honest, forthright, and humble. Not only will it free you from the stress and anxiety of

possibly getting tripped up by a lie, but you'll come off as more relaxed, confident, and personable along the way – all wins for you.

#### Demonstrate value

Don't be the candidate who expects the skies to open and the curtains to

part for them when they're on the job hunt trail.

Remember, the purpose here is not for companies to show you how they can meet your needs and convince you that they're worth devoting your time and effort – it's the reverse. Your primary mission when hunting for a job is to demonstrate your value and show companies how you would be a real asset to their teams, not vice versa. Focus on explaining that you can recognize and anticipate their needs (and capably meet them), and you'll be one step ahead of the competition – and several steps ahead of those entitled candidates who make all the wrong moves.

#### Do your homework

An unprepared candidate rarely finds success on the job hunt. Make sure that you're fully prepared for every interaction you have, whether over email, during a phone conversation, or on an interview. Be well versed in the latest news, trends, and tools in your industry and learn what you can about each target company you meet with, including ideas for helping them relieve their pain points and ways that you can help them reach their target goals.

Don't just keep this valuable info hoarded in case it comes up – be proactive and showcase what you know when appropriate. The stakes are simply too high to leave things to chance, and you'll put yourself one step ahead of candidates who spent more time picking out an interview outfit than preparing effectively.

*Eric Titner has been an editor and content creator for more than a decade. His primary professional focus has been on education- and career-related topics. He currently lives in New York City.*

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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### ACROSS

- 1 Sore  
4 Under the ocean  
10 "Get what I'm sayin'?"  
15 Store  
19 Prior to, to poets  
20 Gofer's job  
21 Gut bacterium  
22 Dana Perfiles fragrance  
23 Person born in early October in Benghazi?  
25 Family car in Khartoum?  
27 Eddie — (leisurewear chain)  
28 Carrere of the screen  
29 Rock concert booster  
30 Make furious  
31 Silky cat in Luanda?  
34 Beyond city limits  
37 Merit badge displays  
38 Kazan of filmmaking  
39 It precedes omega  
40 Clear-minded  
41 Lead-in to history

- 44 Chess play in Banjul?  
47 Ballroom dance in Apia?  
53 Ency., e.g.  
54 Ancient Central Americans  
55 See 112-Down  
56 Italian "my"  
57 Russia's Alexis I, e.g.  
59 Envy, e.g.  
60 Dark-haired man in Bandar Seri Begawan?  
63 Lumber tool  
65 Former Oriole Ripken  
68 Extremist  
69 "Delta Dawn" singer Tucker  
71 Pathologist's study  
74 Long time  
75 Mo. in which fall starts  
77 Doc in Tijuana?  
79 Cinch — (trash bag brand)  
81 "Keep this in"  
83 Do a fist bump  
84 Scandal-ridden company of 2002

- 85 Japanese brew  
88 Old TV's "Na Na"  
89 Tropical devil ray in Valletta?  
91 Sleeping garment in San Miguelito?  
95 Orig. copies  
96 Well out of range  
97 Precept  
98 Is the right size for  
100 "That made no sense to me"  
106 People rattling things off  
108 Engaged guy in Marseilles?  
111 Actress Saoirse  
112 Long time  
113 Hip-hop producer Gotti  
114 The Beatles' "I — Walrus"  
115 Buyable apartment in Brazzaville?  
118 Fish eggs in Barcelona?  
120 Wine city in California  
121 — a million

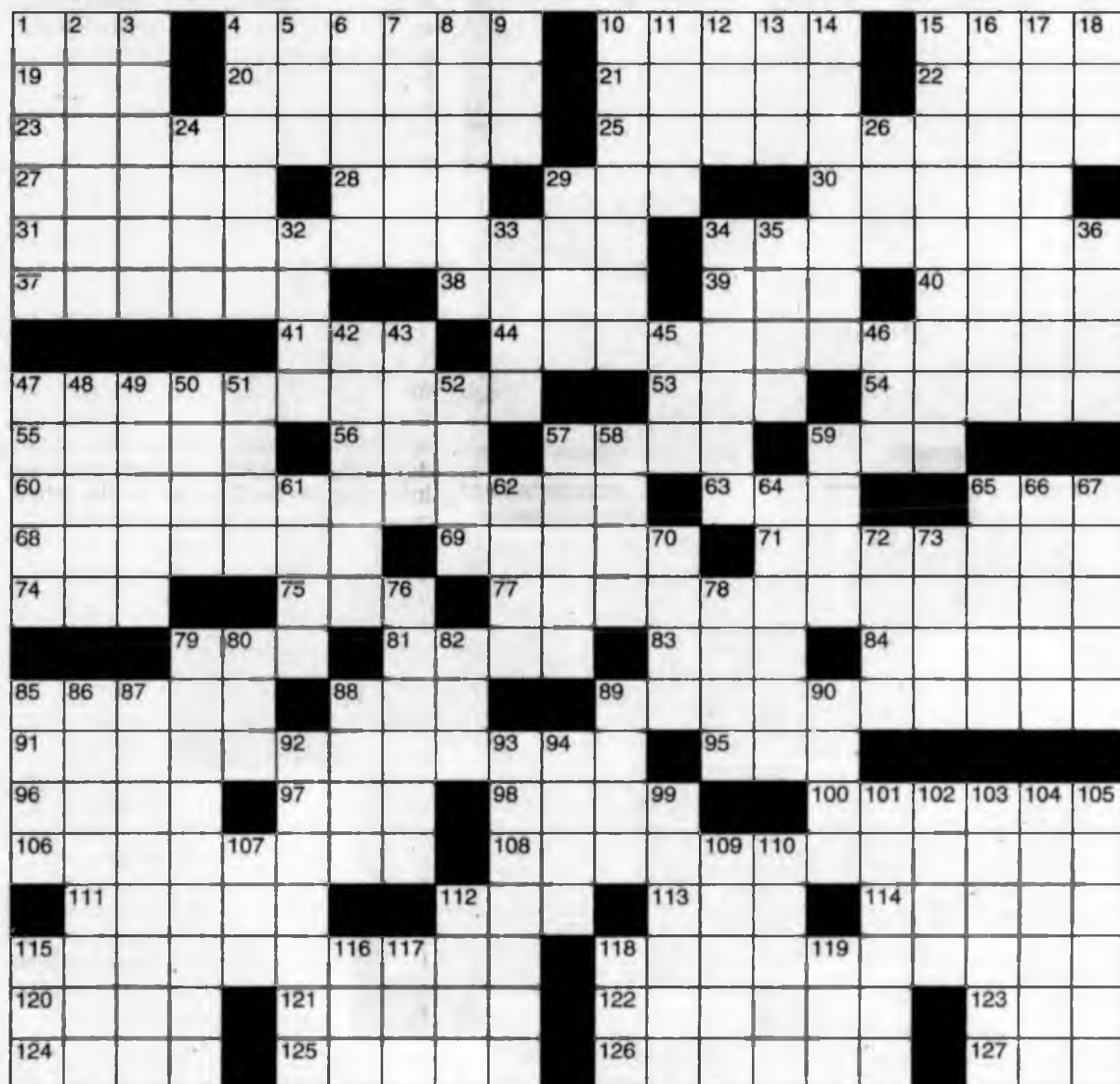
- 122 Secret recorder disguised as a writing instrument  
123 — govt poker  
124 Supermodel from Somalia  
125 "Check," to a card player  
126 Motown's Franklin  
127 Lingo suffix

### DOWN

- 1 Peach — (desserts)  
2 Singer Grande  
3 Cleans up, as software  
4 NutraSweet developer  
5 Website ID  
6 Water filter brand  
7 Polio studier Albert  
8 Make furious  
9 Oklahoma city  
10 Polite reply to a lady  
11 Coffee pod  
12 Drift (off)  
13 Pay add-on?  
14 Hits the jackpot  
15 Piloting guy  
16 Gave birth  
17 Enthusiasm for Barack

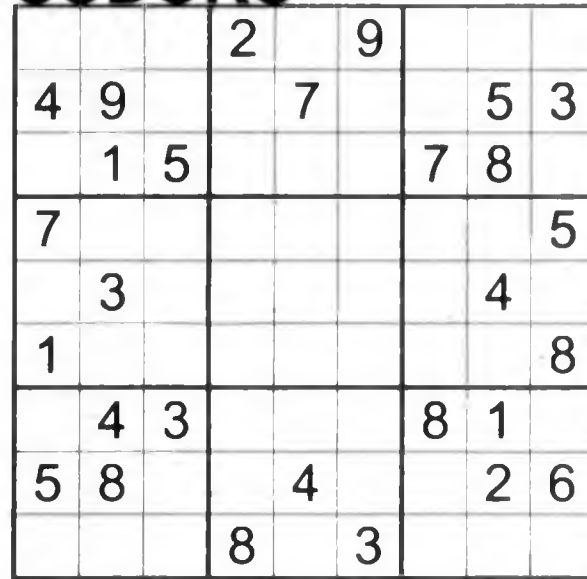
- 18 Word-wit bit  
24 Michelle of "Crazy Rich Asians"  
26 Erwin of film  
29 Opera opus  
32 Some vipers  
33 Korb of gymnastics  
34 Secretive viewers  
35 B-52 org.  
36 Ensnares  
42 Meander  
43 Arabian ruler  
45 Half a bikini  
46 Gallic pal  
47 Native-born Israeli  
48 "What —" ("Ho-hum")  
49 Harold's film partner  
50 Dodge of old  
51 "Hang on —"  
52 Boxing event  
57 Precept  
58 Hades river  
59 Go like a fish  
61 "May — a favor?"  
62 Personal ID  
64 Takes in  
65 — terrier  
66 Dressy tie  
67 Pop singer Lewis  
70 Verdi's slave  
72 With  
90-Down, appear that  
73 Writer Ferber

- 76 Dismissive remarks  
78 Not panicky  
79 Partaking of with others  
80 Aspiration  
82 — Mahal  
85 On — with  
86 Space that's invulnerable to attack  
87 Large boa  
88 Joust verbally  
89 — Hari  
90 See 72-Down  
92 Lace town  
99 Potshot taker  
101 Heavy vapor  
102 Genie houser  
103 Like early audiobooks  
104 Unstressed vowel sounds  
105 — -weenie  
107 Chinese ideal  
109 Large wader  
110 Kick out  
112 With  
115 Caesar's 151  
116 Artist Yoko  
117 Mo. neighbor  
118 Jacuzzi site  
119 "Nope"



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or [smcclellan@michigan.com](mailto:smcclellan@michigan.com). Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

## SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

## LANDSCAPE WORD SEARCH

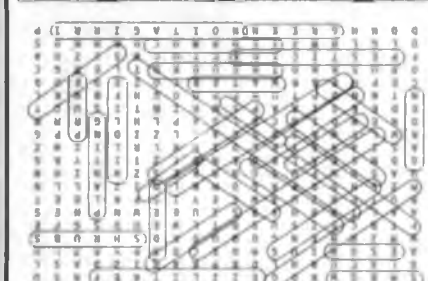
S M R O W R D G E Z I L T R E F R S U  
G L A C U R N L D B P R A R I Z D A S L  
A E S O H I U G M O S C O S P Y E Z L U  
W M Z R H E N G O B U O R D S H R U B S  
P T R C S I S U S R T L W E U D S G F E  
A A L T R B H S B S I U E E W N P H E S  
B U T P R I U A W C E Y I S P R L E E T  
M Z S H D O P R G O M B L D I Z A L L N  
U A S G W P U S G N R A E S Z W N I H N  
G D N S E A L B D E N B T Z T I T Y R G  
A S T I A A Y E L D I N R L R L I Z W Z  
R W L Y W R S D S E A I L Z I D N P P G  
D N E N O I G C O L S A P L H L G R M M  
E D E E G I A A P S W H I N T I S U C T  
N T N N D P T U W F P G O G H F B N R L  
C E P H E B R W A T E R C O Z E D E U D  
O P U S N N O T H G U O R D T L E R G C  
P E S T I C I D E C T U C W S L Z O A  
O L G L H M Z T S O P M O C O R N B O S  
D N H G R E E N N O I T A G I R R I P

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## WORDS

BED  
COMPOST  
CURB APPEAL  
DESIGN  
DROUGHT  
FERTILIZE  
GARDEN  
GRASS  
GREEN  
GRUBS  
HOSE  
IRRIGATION  
LANDSCAPE  
LAWN  
MULCHING  
PATHWAY  
PESTICIDE  
PLANTING  
PLANTS  
PRUNE  
ROOTS  
ROWS  
SEEDS  
SHRUBS  
SOD  
SPRING  
TREES  
TROUBLESHOOT  
WATER  
WEED  
WILDLIFE  
WORMS

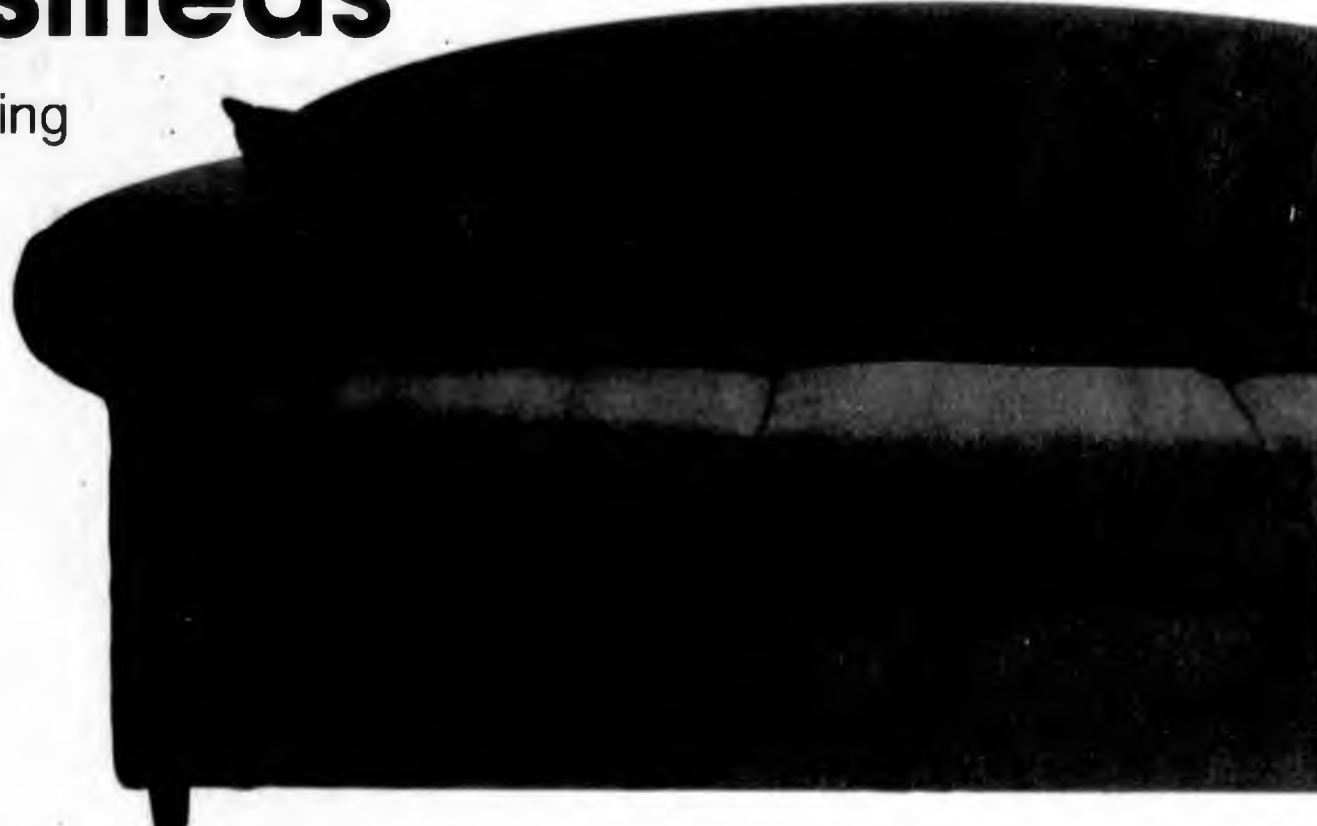
### ANSWER KEY



4	6	9	8	1	8	2	9
9	2	8	2	4	6	1	8
2	1	8	9	2	9	8	6
8	2	9	2	6	8	4	9
2	4	1	9	9	2	6	8
9	8	6	1	8	4	2	9
6	8	2	4	8	9	9	2
8	9	2	8	2	1	9	6
1	9	4	6	9	2	8	2

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